

Wisconsin Diesel Truck Idling Reduction Grant Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. If I'm eligible for more than one idle reduction unit, do I have to purchase different types and from different manufacturers?

Answer: Yes. As stated in section 560.125 (4) (f) of the Wisconsin Statutes, "The department shall require that applicants receiving grants under this section covering more than one idling reduction unit purchase idling reduction units of more than one type and from more than one manufacturer."

2. I'm applying for multiple idle reduction units. Do I need to include multiple price quotes when submitting the application?

Answer: Yes. If applying for more than one idle reduction technology, you must include individual price quotes for each type of idle reduction technologies. You must also use the Vendor Price Quote attached to the application (form BDET10839), which is (Attachment C).

The vendor price quotes must be filled out by the idle reduction vendor and must contain the base cost of the unit and installation. This means there should not be any extra costs on the quote. (e.g. shipping costs, inverters, etc.). If the vendor would still like to include their own quote that lists available options, they may do so as long as the motor carrier submits the completed Vendor Price Quote Form attached to the application with base costs identified.

Applications that don't include a base cost and installation cost separately will be deemed incomplete, so it is important that idle reduction vendors provide the two costs separately.

3. Are leased trucks eligible?

Answer: No. Trucks that are on a leased to own agreement do not meet the definition of being owned and operated by the applicant and are therefore ineligible. Wisconsin Motor carriers that own (possess title) and operate their trucks can be leased on to a company as long as the motor carrier owns and operates the truck tractors for which they are seeking grant coverage.

4. What if I bought my idle reduction unit before July 1st of the year I'm applying for grant coverage, can I still apply for a grant?

Answer: No. The grants are intended to function as incentives for purchasing, installing, and field testing the equipment under prescribed conditions and not to be used as rewards or reimbursements for prior purchases.

560.125 (2) authorizes the Department, **beginning** on July 1, to "award a grant . . . for the purchase and field testing of one or more idling reduction units." The rules that SECTION 9108 (1w) of 2005 Wisconsin Act 25 requires Commerce to adopt for administering these grants take effect on July 1. Those rules include establishment of parameters for the field testing. For example pre-installation information along with six- and twelve-month post-installation reports which must be submitted in a format prescribed by the Department of Commerce and include evidence of being derived from on-board, electronically recorded data (e.g., ECM download) are required.

5. What if I have questions while filling out applications?

Answer: Commerce staff are available to assist motor carriers in filling out applications.

6. If I am an owner operator who resides in Wisconsin, but I work for a fleet ("leased to"), am I still eligible?

Answer: Motor carriers headquartered in Wisconsin that own and operate their 1999 or newer truck tractors are eligible for funding, granted they meet all the eligibility requirements in Comm. 131.

7. Are rebuilt engines eligible?

Answer: Yes, if the original engine was manufactured in 1999 or is newer.

8. What happens if I'm awarded grant coverage and the truck tractor is involved in an accident within the first year?

Answer: Notify Commerce immediately. If the idle reduction unit is still functioning properly the motor carrier could install the unit on another truck tractor. If the unit cannot be saved, the truck owner must provide the department with proof by submitting documentation that shows the truck tractor and unit are no longer in working condition. Commerce would not reimburse the remaining 20% if the motor carrier is unable to provide the reports to fulfill the agreement.

9. Will the grant cover self-installations made by grant recipients?

Answer: Yes, if approved by Commerce. The person installing the unit must be a properly trained mechanic (certified). If the idle reduction unit is installed by someone who is not certified, the motor carrier would have to get the idle reduction unit inspected by a certified installer at their own expense and submit to Commerce an inspectors record/log stating the unit was installed properly.

Motor carriers should keep in mind that warranties could be voided if the installation is not performed by the idle reduction vendor.

10. If a motor carrier submits an application, but is not selected, does that applicant have priority the following year?

Answer: No. Applicants that are not selected during a given year will have to re-apply the following year (if they choose to do so).

11. Once I submit my application, can I go ahead and purchase an idling reduction unit?

Answer: Yes, but applicants who choose to purchase idle reduction units prior to receiving grant approval documents (after July 1st of the year they are applying for grant coverage) do so at the risk of not being funded. Please note that starting in 2007, Commerce will require all grant recipients to conduct a pre-installation engine download.

12. If my fleet information takes up more room than what's available on the application, can I include an excel spreadsheet?

Answer: Yes, as long as the attachment (spreadsheet) provides all the information that is asked for on the application (Section 3 – Truck Information). Commerce has made available an excel spreadsheet for further truck information on the departments webpage.

13. What happens when an application is submitted using the wrong form?

Answer: Applications submitted to Commerce on invalid forms or that are incomplete are considered ineligible for grant coverage. Comm 131.40 states: "Every application for a grant under this chapter shall be submitted to the department on a fully completed, valid form provided by the department."

14. The registration on my truck-tractor is not in the state of Wisconsin. Am I still eligible?

Answer: Yes. Wisconsin motor carriers do not have to have their truck tractors registered in Wisconsin, but the applicant needs to be headquartered in Wisconsin and own and operate their 1999 or newer truck tractors.

15. Once I am selected for a grant, does the contract need to be signed by a certain date?

Answer: Yes. Grant recipients need to sign and return the contract within 30 days from the award date. Request for disbursements in addition to paid invoices must be signed and returned to the Department of Commerce 120 days from the award date. The department may grant a 20 day extension if requested by the motor carrier.